



# Rainscaping: A Beautiful Solution to Water Pollution

## Sustainable Solutions:

### RAIN BARRELS

are a centuries-old technique to collect rainwater from rooftops. Rain barrels attach to the downspouts at your home or business and help to keep our groundwater and streams clean. You can find rain barrels for sale in garden centers and online.

### Rain Barrel Benefits:

- Lower water costs: Rainwater is free! Less water usage means lower water bills. In an urban setting such as the District of Columbia, more than 40% of the domestic water supply is used for gardening and other outdoor activities.
- Less stormwater runoff: Lower volumes of erosion-causing runoff and associated pollutants running into our street drains, streams, and the Chesapeake Bay.
- More water conserved during hot, dry summer months.
- Cleaner chlorine-free water for greener, healthier gardens and lawns.
- More water available and handy for car washing, dog washing, filling garden ponds, and other uses.

### Good To Know:

- Water collected in a rain barrel is not intended for human consumption.
- Properly designed rain barrels do not breed mosquitoes.

